GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6046
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
IRRIGATION POTENTIAL
V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual growth in irrigation potential;

(b) the present Ultimate Irrigation Potential assessed by the Government in the country;

(c) the details of schemes launched by the Government to increase the irrigation potential;

(d) the extent to which the success has been achieved during Ninth Plan over Eight Plan; and

(e) the target fixed for Tenth Plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) The average annual growth in irrigation potential during the Ninth Five Year Plan period has been about 1.8 million hectare per year (provisional).

(b) The assessed Ultimate Irrigation Potential in the country at present is 139.9 million hectare.

(c) Creation of irrigation potential takes place through major, medium and minor irrigation schemes conceived, planned and implemented by different State Governments as per their financial resources and according to their own priorities. However, the Union Government, with a view to assist the States to complete ongoing irrigation and multipurpose projects, is providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to the States under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). Underthe programme CLA amounting to Rs. 11541.73 crore has been released upto the end of March 2003 to 28 States.

(d) As per provisional assessment made by the Planning Commission additional irrigation potential of about 9.15 million hectare has been created during the Ninth Plan against 8.33 million hectare created during the Eighth Plan.

(e) As per targets proposed by the State Governments in their Tenth Five Year Plan proposals, additional Irrigation Potential of 14.24 million hectare is proposed to be created during the Tenth Five Year Plan period subject to availability of adequate Plan allocations for the States.